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Young Men's Christian
Associations (New York...

Biennial report of the State
Executive Committee

New York

[1910?]

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BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW YORK STATE

SHOWING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORK IN
THE STATE SINCE THE LAST STATE CONVENTION
AND INCLUDING
AN EXHIBIT OF SEVEN YEARS' PROGRESS

Presented at the Thirty-eighth State Convention, Syracuse, N. Y.
February 22, 1910

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
215 West Twenty-third Street, New York

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESENTED AT THE STATE CONVENTION
SYRACUSE, N. Y., FEBRUARY 22, 1910

THE STATE COMMITTEE

W. M. KINGSLEY, Chairman
CHARLES F. MACLEAN, Vice-Chairman
LEWIS W. FRANCIS, Recording Secretary
SAMUEL WOOLVERTON, Treasurer

Frederick Billings, New York	Hugh Kennedy, Buffalo
Thomas A. Buckner "	E. M. McBrier "
Kingdon Gould "	A. H. Whitford "
G. N. Miller, M. D. "	H. A. Wheat, Geneva
J. M. Olyphant "	Prof. J. W. Jenks, Ithaca
Frederick B. Schenck "	Edwin H. Wolf, Mt. Vernon
W. R. Sheffield "	F. B. Harder, Philmont
Edgar C. Leonard, Albany	Edmund P. Platt, Poughkeepsie
A. Page Smith "	William W. Smith "
John R. Clements, Binghamton	J. F. Dinkey, Rochester
Edward P. Lyon, Brooklyn	Edwin Allen Stebbins, Rochester
Charles L. Morse "	D. M. Edwards, Syracuse
James H. Post "	F. R. Hazard "
Robert L. Wensley "	Robert Cluett Troy
Clifford Hubbell, Buffalo	William F. Gurley "

H. S. Ludlow, Troy

JOHN W. COOK, State Secretary

SECRETARIES

F. W. Pearsall	T. I. Eldridge
J. C. Armstrong	F. S. Morrison
Fred M. Hill	Fred'k F. Calyer
W. H. Burger	W. J. Campbell

Frank C. Myers

As the representative of the Young Men's Christian Association of the State of New York, the State Executive Committee presents this report to the associations at their biennial meeting. It covers the two years since the last meeting and is submitted with a feeling of gratitude to all who have in any way contributed to the success of the Committee's work. The Committee was called into existence forty-one years ago. Since then it has served the brotherhood of the State with the single purpose of doing its share in making the associations effective.

The immediate administration of the 102 associations of the State is in the hands of local business men and 305 paid officers assisted by 6,655 committee-men. The membership aggregates \$8,543. The number of members, however, is not the only criterion by which to judge the extent of the work and influence of the association. Through the physical department alone 13,293 men and boys outside the membership were reached in helpful ways the past year. This is typical of the extension work done by other departments of the association.

EQUIPMENT AND ENDOWMENT

Since February, 1908, the associations of the State have made large additions to their material equipment. The 15 new buildings opened since the last biennial report at the following points including those that have been enlarged and improved increase the property holdings by \$1,579,671, to a total of \$9,932,333:

Brooklyn Naval	\$437,000
Brooklyn, L. I. R.	150,000
Brooklyn, West Side	52,000
Fort Slocom	40,000
Glens Falls	35,000
Ithaca	70,000
Plattsburg	84,000
Poughkeepsie	200,000
Rensselaer, R. R.	4,000
Rome	50,000
Schenectady	15,000
Sloan R. R.	25,000
Syracuse	312,000
Syracuse East R. R.	5,000
Utica	125,000

Buildings are approaching completion at Olean, \$35,000, and Buffalo (dormitory building), \$150,000. Plans are in preparation for a \$50,000 building at Hornell, this sum having been raised in a fifteen day canvass in December, and alterations to the Auburn building, \$7,000, are under way.

*Building completed since April 30, 1909, and therefore the total which includes these buildings is greater than the Year Book figures: \$124,000 of this amount was reported as other real estate in the 1909 Year Book.

†Buildings set aside for railroad associations, valuation not included in association property holdings.

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

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PRESENTED AT THE STATE CONVENTION
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Indebtedness

The real estate debts are now \$469,355 as compared with \$360,000 two years ago. There has been a steady reduction, both proportionate and actual, in the real estate debts since 1900, when the amount was \$779,700 and the total property holdings \$1,327,600, one-half the present value of the equipment.

This satisfactory condition is due in part to the present plan of short term building canvasses by which the entire amount needed for building purposes is raised before the building is begun. It is due, also, to short-term debt canvasses. The State Committee has co-operated in both.

Endowment

In 1908, 19 associations reported \$628,000 in endowment funds. Now 24 associations report \$801,145.

GENERAL SUMMARY

	Feb. 1, 1910.	Year Book May 1907.
Number of associations.....	102	187
Total members	58,543	56,126
Number buildings	88	80
Value buildings	\$9,042,515	\$7,124,340
Equipment and other real estate.....	\$889,818	\$921,022
Total property holdings.....	\$9,932,333	\$8,045,362
Mortgage debt	\$469,355	\$360,000
Endowment	\$801,145	\$628,200
Number employed officers.....	395	381
Buildings free of debt	57	53
Current expenses	\$1,265,155	\$1,123,035

* May 1, 1909.

FIELD DEPARTMENT

Scope of Activities

The city associations of the State represent 35 per cent. of the associations, 72 per cent. of the membership, 70 per cent. of the buildings, 84 per cent. of the property holdings and 77 per cent. of the employed force. The field department in co-operation with the city associations has promoted building, improvement and debt canvasses at Ossining, Hudson, Norwich, Glens Falls, New Rochelle, Hornell, Rochester, Olean, Nyack, Greenpoint Branch, Brooklyn, Kingston and Harlem Branch, New York; conferred with employed officers and directors regarding the administration of buildings and business management; sought out and placed eighty-five men in two years as employed officers, coaching them upon their arrival in new fields; advised with local committees, architects and secretaries as to the planning and construction of buildings; secured and distributed information; enlisted men in volunteer service as directors and committeemen and kept persistently before both employed officers and local leaders the conception that the association is not a building but a group of men associated together in service to extend the kingdom of God among young men.

Policy in Organizing

The State Committee is helping to secure adequate buildings in several cities where associations have been suspended during the past ten years owing to lack of proper equipment. Requests for organization at many points have been answered by a presentation to a conference of business men and pastors of the foregoing conception of the association and the plan to

secure an adequate building free of debt with income producing features before organizing. The adherence to this policy has prevented premature organization and the associations generally are now established on a firmer financial footing.

Conditions Past and Present

Seven years ago, the State Committee faced the task of helping to work out the many trying financial situations which had developed during the period when the state force was too small to give the time necessary to deal adequately with conditions as they developed. The number of secretaries was increased and sufficient time devoted to each point to meet the demands. In addition to the regular staff, use has been made of special financial secretaries and of local secretaries at nearby points. Whereas, five years ago two and sometimes three special financial secretaries were used by the State Committee in meeting exigencies upon the field, at this time only one man, W. T. Perkins, is so used. This improved condition makes it possible for the State Committee to promote, more actively, the organization of new associations.

The Next Two Years

The State Committee will continue:

1. To organize new associations and re-establish those temporarily suspended. There are twelve such cities, each with populations over 10,000 and eighteen with populations between 5,000 and 10,000 that should be organized or re-established.
2. To respond to the request of associations for better business organization and a closer checking up of the administration of the buildings and business management.
3. To assist local associations in canvasses for new buildings, the liquidation of mortgage and floating indebtedness and the securing of gifts and bequests for endowment.
4. To further realize the ideal of the association as a centre for the training of men in service. This involves the enlistment of larger groups of men in these lines of work which reach beyond the building and touch men and boys outside the membership.

BOYS' DEPARTMENT

In two years the boys' membership has grown from 8,982 to 10,426 or 16 per cent. The Bible study enrollment increased 1,210 or 35 per cent. and the number of associations employing boys' secretaries from 22 to 33 or 50 per cent. Noteworthy advance has been made during the past two years in work for high school boys. Last spring forty-three associations reported 2,957 high school boys in their membership. Thirty-seven associations reported 1,241 high school boys in Bible study and 523 boys were engaged in definite service. This year special emphasis is being laid by the State Committee upon work for working boys. One of the most important features of the movement is a survey in which some thirty-five associations are co-operating. Other activities which the Committee has promoted are: Helping to establish uniform age limits; encouraging the organization of normal classes for training male teachers of boys' classes in the Sunday School and organizing three boys' secretaries' conferences in the State.

*The experience of the State Committee in the past five years leads it to commend the plan of short term canvasses to the associations of the State not only for building but for improvement, debt and current expense canvasses. The Committee will continue to assist in organizing and conducting such campaigns wherever conditions make such a plan desirable.

In November, 1908, the second state boys' conference was held in Binghamton with 282 delegates from forty-six associations. Three section conferences were held during the fall of 1909, with an attendance of 367 from forty-nine associations. For two seasons a training conference has been conducted by the State Committee at Canadice Lake for the boys of Western New York.

The State Committee purchased a site for Dudley Camp near Westport on Lake Champlain in 1908, at a cost of \$12,700. The property consists of sixty-five acres having a mile of shore front. Since the purchase about \$6,000 has been expended in permanent improvements. An increasing variety of camp activities have been carried on for the symmetrical development of the 126 boys who have been enrolled during the past two seasons. Among many gratifying evidences of God's blessing is the fact that eighty-eight boys made definite decisions for the Christian life and many boys, already professing Christians, were led to devote themselves to definite service for others.

One of the most potential association projects in recent years is the summer camp for boys. During the two years which this report covers fifty-three such local camps have been conducted in New York State with an attendance of 2,248.

Some Tendencies

1. Larger emphasis upon Bible study for boys of all classes and marked improvement in the quality of the work as well as in the number of boys enrolled.
2. A concerted movement to grade and group boys more naturally in membership and in committee service. The old "standing committee" is being superseded. Now when a particular project is to be promoted a "club" or a "committee of the whole" or some other suitable organization is called into being. The work still heads up in the cabinet.
3. The growth of the "community idea." Association leaders and boys are feeling the responsibility for the welfare of "all the boys in town," an expression of the association's desire to be of service.
4. More attention is being given the individual boy. At one time the association thought of the "crowd"; later of the "group" or "gang." Now it thinks of the "boy." It will be seen that we try to meet individual needs, the gang instinct being utilized to this end.
5. There is closer co-operation with other organizations and more comprehensive plans are employed, with the result that there is less duplication of effort and more immediate help is given to the home, the school and the church.

The Next Two Years

1. Larger emphasis will be placed upon work for working boys, in accordance with the findings of the survey being made of the conditions under which they live and work. As a result we should see in each association adequate plans for helping and using this important element of society.
2. Work for high school boys will be further extended and developed. The present emphasis upon Bible study, upon higher standards in scholarship and athletics, and upon social service will be continued.
3. Normal classes for training male teachers for adolescent boys for the Sunday School and association will be increased.
4. The training conference idea will be extended and will be included in the new features at Camp Dudley.

STUDENT DEPARTMENT

Frank C. Myers, Princeton '09, became student secretary of the State Committee last September, and is successfully devoting himself to the work

of the student field. There are thirty-eight associations in this department with a membership of 3,144. Recently boys' clubs have been organized by Cornell, Union, Hamilton and Columbia. Cornell employs an additional secretary for Bible study this year. The Students' Club of New York City, has five additional secretaries, three on full time and two on half time.

Bible and Mission Study

In 1907, the Bible study enrollment was 1,250; in 1909, 1,764; and increase of 41 per cent. This year it exceeds 2,000. Cornell has a policy calling for the enrollment of 1,100. West Point has 250 men in thirty Bible study groups. Last year at Syracuse and Union, there was practically no organized Bible study. This year Syracuse has 415 men enrolled and Union 90. At Hartwick Seminary 90 per cent. of the students are in Bible study. In mission study there has been a decrease. In 1907, 407 men were enrolled. The following year, 107, coming up again to 204 last year.

For Graduates

An effort is being made by the Association of New York City to conserve the work of the college associations by tying up for voluntary service those recent graduates coming to New York to live. A year ago a special secretary was employed for this purpose. During this time 176 men have been led to devote a part of their time to work in social settlements, clubs and churches.

In Influence

The men in the student association largely determine the tone of college life and preparatory schools. Through their influence doubtful customs are frequently overthrown, and in one college recently the honor system was introduced by vote of the student body. Committees are used extensively. By placing the work of each department in the hands of committees, with full responsibility, a large number of men are trained. The employment department, bureau of information, committee on life work meetings, on securing rooms and on Bible study afford places for men whose spiritual lives are in different stages of development and who are men of influence among the students. The college association extends its influence and trains its men by deputations to preparatory schools, churches, city and county associations and boys' clubs. Fifty-four such visits have been made this fall and winter.

The Next Two Years

We should organize associations in five colleges, ten professional schools and thirty-three preparatory schools. Two colleges and nearly all of the thirty-three preparatory schools are ready for immediate organization. Our largest opportunity for far-reaching service now is in the preparatory schools. It is of the utmost importance that these students be related to the association and all that it stands for in advance of their college days.

Objectives: (1) Win more students to the Christian life. (2) Secure 75 per cent. of the students for association members and enroll 50 per cent. in Bible study. (3) Lead men to serve the church and community after leaving college. (4) Organize association employment bureaus to aid needy students. (5) Start at least one mission class in each institution. (6) Intensify the spiritual influence of the colleges by sending workers to churches, chapels, city and county associations and academies to speak or conduct meetings.

RAILROAD DEPARTMENT

A Few Facts

There are in New York State thirty-four railroad associations, thirteen of which are housed in their own buildings valued at \$275,500, and sixteen in buildings or rooms set aside by railroad companies or officials, valued at \$558,500 and five associations occupy rented quarters. The membership is 9,707. The Rochester Street Railway provides three suites of rooms located in different parts of the city, and the New York Central two buildings for East Syracuse. Recently Mrs. Russell Sage and the Pennsylvania Railroad made a joint gift of a building at Long Island City valued at \$150,000; and the Lackawanna at Sloan, a building costing \$25,000. Those at New Durham and Corning have been remodeled. The value of real property has increased 32 per cent. New York State has 23 per cent. of the railroad buildings of North America; 32 per cent. of the valuation, and 13 per cent. of the membership. The daily attendance last year was 7,092; 808 used rest rooms; 2,984 lunches were served, and 320 baths taken daily.

Last year, seventeen associations reported Bible classes an increase of 29 per cent., total attendance 9,205, an increase of 139 per cent., by 534 different students, an increase of 56 per cent. The attendance at Bible classes and religious meetings was 38,772 an increase of 12 per cent. The total attendance at shop meetings was 3,545 a decrease of 56 per cent., due to the fact that less men were employed in the shops. The 143 students in educational classes represent an increase of 22 per cent. and the 189 lectures and practical talks an increase of 122 per cent. There has been an increase of 25 per cent. in the use of library books, an average of 133 daily. Two years ago there were no educational clubs, now 130 men are in such clubs.

New associations have been organized at Minoa and DeWitt, in the East Syracuse freight yards which have been made branches of the Syracuse Association. The old Boston & Albany Railroad Men's Club, at Rensselaer, is now a department of the Albany Association, and Sloan a department of the Buffalo Association.

The railroad appropriations for the past two years have aggregated \$113,000. For the present year the appropriations for current expenses are \$6,300 in excess of last year. The New York Central has appropriated \$25,000 for a building at East Syracuse, and \$10,000 for one at Ravena. The Erie will give \$10,000 toward a building at Port Jervis.

The Next Two Years

The effort to improve business management and to better meet the needs of the members will be continued. There will be a further development of the educational and religious work.

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT

Suggestive Facts

Twenty-nine per cent. of the members of the city associations and 95 per cent. of the railroad associations are in industrial pursuits. These members, however, represent only a small part of the industrial men within the influence of the association: most of the men in educational and religious shop meetings, and in classes for non-English speaking men are not members. Twenty-seven associations are doing work for non-English speaking men; 511 are enrolled in classes in English. One association has twelve different nationalities in the classes; another association has sixteen nationalities, ninety-four occupations, and fifteen religious creeds in its membership.

The Barge Canal

There are 6,000 men of whom 44 per cent. are English speaking, within the field of sixteen associations cities along the 407 miles of the Barge Canal, which is being constructed across the State from North Tonawanda to Whitehall. As the work progresses the number of men will be increased. The construction work will cover five years and be carried on under sixty-eight contracts. More than 43 per cent. of the work is near associations, and affords an excellent opportunity to do some necessary things. Already some work has been done by the associations at Mechanicville and Waterford.

The Next Two Years

It is recommended:

1. That associations near construction camps give instruction in English, hygiene and other necessary subjects and in all other possible ways extend the association privileges to meet these needy conditions.
2. That for construction gangs along the line of the Barge Canal not within operating distance of associations, there be developed as far as practicable some association activities, the form of organization to be determined by experimentation and experience.
3. That the association enlarge its work in behalf of the industrial worker.

COUNTY DEPARTMENT

Organizations

Orange, Oneida, Eastern Delaware, Rockland, Dutchess and Western Greene counties have been organized; the last three during the period covered by this report. Westchester and Western Delaware are being organized. Twelve secretaries are employed.

Activities

The associations in the counties have increased from 32 to 47; the membership from 1,184 to 1,590, and the Bible study enrollment from 415 to 625. More than 150 older boys and young men have united with the churches from the Bible classes, 25 in one county during the past month. One county had 83 boys in camp last summer, another gave 40 boys a ten-day trip on the Erie Canal and Hudson River, another held a county athletic meet with 350 entries and 3,000 people in attendance, another has 285 men and boys enrolled in Bible study with an average weekly attendance of 200. Talks on life questions and current topics, travel lectures, classes in first aid to the injured, English for foreigners, and debating clubs are prominent features. Nature study tramps, over-night camps, and educational trips to cities are popular. Local and county play festivals and athletic meets are conducted. Co-operation is given local and county fair managements in educational and recreational features.

A Few Incidents that Tell the Story

A country boy came to the city not long ago. His home was in Clayville, a beautiful little village in central New York. He got a job in a big wire works. A day or two afterwards he received a personal letter, asking him to come to the association. His welcome was cordial and he was greatly pleased with the fine building, but more than that, he found what he craved—friends. At the Sunday afternoon meeting he decided for the Christian life. It is a simple story, but back of it was a business man in the home village

When a
Country Boy
Comes to
Town

who is a corresponding member of the State Committee, and who wrote regarding this boy leaving for the city and giving his address.

A school principal says the association has lessened the problem of discipline through its work with high school boys. In the Villages A community whose young men were being demoralized by village and city influences is carrying on a successful association work, although the only meeting place is in the farm homes. In a lumbering section where the saloon used to dominate, the association is now the attractive social center. Over a year ago a mill hand, who had been discharged for drunkenness, was led into the Christian life by an association worker in Orange County, who then secured his re-engagement. This past summer he was made superintendent of the mill.

These incidents represent one phase of association work in the country districts. We used to wait until the country boy came to the city before we tried to do something for him, now we take the association to him.

Corresponding Members

The number of corresponding members has been increased from 373 to 465. They have reported to the State Committee 1,085 young men leaving home for city and college life as compared with 531 for the previous two years. As indicated above, the Committee introduces these men to associations and churches.

The Next Two Years

1. Strengthen the existing organizations rather than organize new counties.
2. Extend the corresponding membership. Effort will be made to identify the young men from the country with the association, the church and other helpful agencies in their new locations and to otherwise assist them at this critical period.
3. Evangelization. There should be vigorous county campaigns to bring the gospel message with decision compelling power to men and boys. This should be supplemented by a program to enlist these men and boys in systematic, devotional, private and group Bible study. Such groups can be formed in churches, houses, schools, clubs, shops, indeed, wherever men and boys congregate or are accessible. There is urgent need of a movement with character kindling contagion to regenerate country life. The religious life of men and boys should be cultivated and fostered as fundamental to intellectual, social, physical, civic and economic efficiency.

PEEKSKILL MILITARY CAMP

It was the testimony of officers and members of the National Guard that the State Committee's work in 1908, at Peekskill, was instrumental in restraining many men from indulging in the harmful excesses incident to such an encampment. About 1,500 men were in camp. Visits to the tents aggregated 7,650 an average of 5.8 daily. The athletic, musical, entertainment and correspondence features were largely enjoyed. There were 15,635 pieces of mail matter written, sorted and mailed from the tents, averaging 1,117 daily. Five religious services were held attended by 550 men or an average of 110. The presence of half a regiment in the tents each evening served to lessen materially the patronage of questionable nearby resorts.

Joint maneuvers with the regular army in another state resulted in no assignment to Peekskill in 1909.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Suggestive Figures

During the past two years about 16,000 students have been enrolled in the various educational classes of the associations in the State of New York; over 265,000 books have been read; over 1,200 educational lectures have been given, an increase of 16 per cent; over \$250,000 have been expended and \$100,000 received on account of the various educational activities. Growth has been evident in all phases of educational work, there being an increase of over 7 per cent in number of different students enrolled in the second year over the first. Considerably over 180 more lectures (not counting those purely of an entertaining character) were held last year than the year before. There have also been added about 500 men in educational clubs, a gain of 21 per cent. Notwithstanding these gains the associations have employed fifty less instructors.

Eleven associations have a paid supervisor, three having been added last year. The value of this supervision is shown in the fact that in the associations containing 41 per cent. of the total membership of the State, there are 84 per cent. of the total different students, 97 per cent. of the cash receipts and 91 per cent. of expenses. Or in other words in 50 per cent. of the associations reporting educational work but without paid supervision, there are only 16 per cent. of the total different students, 3 per cent. of the receipts and 9 per cent. of the expenses.

The average annual net cost per student where there has been a supervisor has been \$4.16, while in the associations without a supervisor it has cost \$7.30. Considering the fact that most of the students join especially for the educational privileges and pay a membership fee, it would probably be found that including this latter fee it would not come far from offsetting the cost of operating the department and providing the supervision.

Two Requests

Two significant requests have come to the State Committee, first from the Educational Directors of Greater New York, urging "the necessity of adding to the state secretarial force an educational secretary who shall devote himself to the work usually attached to that position." The second request is from the Employed Officers of the Associations in conference at Binghamton, May 5, 1909. "We request the State Committee that as soon as possible they add to their executive force a man for special educational supervision."

The State Committee recognizes the necessity for such a secretary, but has not felt warranted in creating the office because of the lack of funds.

EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT

The Employment Department should be conducted for members or those likely to join, each of whom should pay a moderate registration fee, a commission on his salary if placed, or both. It should not be conducted primarily for non members or for relief for the usual unemployed men or do the work of an ordinary employment agency. In some of the large associations a secretary devotes his time to this department. While this is not possible in all associations, in some a secretary might give a part of his time, while in others the general secretary with the assistance of a committee could do effective service.

The policy recently outlined by the Employment Directors of the North American Associations is suggestive and timely.

To the young men and boys who are strangers or who are beginning life's duties, to those who are without work and to those in positions for which they are unsuited, the associations owe an unquestioned duty. It is hoped that these and other vocational needs will be met adequately by local associations keeping in mind the needs and interests of the employer as well as those of the employee.

PHYSICAL DEPARTMENT

Some Statistics

Of the total association membership 77 per cent. are availing themselves of the privileges of the physical department. There are 890 men who are giving their services on the leaders' corps in the gymnasium or one to thirty-five members. In Buffalo and Greater New York there is one to forty-eight members, in the remainder of the state one to twenty-six members. In addition there are a large number of men serving on various physical department committees. Last year, 11,412 examinations were given or 36 per cent. of the membership in this department. In the three metropolitan points already named 47 per cent. of the physical department membership were examined; in the other associations 23 per cent. In the work of extension 13,83 men and boys were reached during the past year and of these 8,500 by three associations.

Some Queries

Looking at these statistics, it appears that a large number of men are attracted to the association by the physical department. Are their needs being met in a scientific and attractive way? The associations in the large cities seem to depend less upon volunteer workers. Is there not a large number of men who could be enlisted, not only for the leaders' corps but for other volunteer service in the physical department; is it not true that a larger number of men are willing to be used? The associations in the smaller cities give less attention to examinations. Is it safe to allow physical department privileges without examination, and can we help men as much without it? While our duty is first to the association membership, do we not owe a larger place in our plans to the entire city?

The Next Two Years

It is suggested that each association: (1) Keep physical efficiency and the maintenance of health to the forefront; (2) Teach boys and men the laws of efficiency and health as well as direct an all round system of exercise calculated to develop physical vigor and physique; (3) Emphasize the idea that physical exercise should be a part of every man's daily program; (4) Lay emphasis on the work for boys, inasmuch as incomparably better and more lasting results can be attained; (5) Examine each applicant as to his physical condition before he is allowed general use of the department; (6) Teach "first aid" not only to members but interest as many outside organizations as possible; (7) So far as possible teach swimming to all boys and young men of the community; (8) Co-operate with and work through all organizations existing for physical betterment such as anti-tuberculosis and health boards; (9) Recognize the obligation to develop men with capacity to lead other men and that so far as possible volunteer workers be used to lead the work and that committees be made responsible for the various phases of activity; (10) Put our competitive sports upon a higher basis by proper regulation, by limiting them so far as outside organizations are concerned and by promoting them for the purpose of developing character; (11) Make the physical department an increasing factor in the religious life of men and boys.

RELIGIOUS WORK DEPARTMENT

Growth

Bible classes show a steady growth. *There are 574, as compared with 47, two years ago and the enrollment is 8,060, as compared with 7,756. Attendance at shop meetings was affected by the closing of many shops because of the financial disturbance of 1907-08. The attendance was 144,777 in 1909, compared with 157,466 two years ago. This, however, is an increase over last year, while reports for the present season indicate that a larger number of

men than ever are attending shop meetings. Signs of improvement in the Sunday meeting are seen and in an increasing number of places it is a larger factor in the life of young men. The attendance, however, decreased, being 225,737, a loss of 30,000, as compared with two years ago. A larger interest has been shown in the observance of the week of prayer. Last November 68 associations held special meetings. During last year training of male teachers of Bible classes has been undertaken in a way that indicates general adoption. Personal evangelism has received a new impulse recently, partly because of the action of the conference of the employed officers of the State at Binghamton last May. A committee was appointed to prepare a plan for a more general presentation of the claims of Christ to men individually. This movement is being extended and is showing results in men being led to decide for the Christian life and for service.

Promotion

This department has given special emphasis to the promotion of personal evangelism, teacher training, Bible classes, shop meetings, Sunday afternoon program, church co-operation, week of prayer and volunteer service. In doing this the State Secretary for religious work has conducted 60 institutes and committee meetings, conducted 42 Sunday afternoon meetings and made 234 other addresses.

The Next Two Years

1. The need as to shop meetings. (1) Associations should undertake their promotion in a way that shall fairly equal the opportunity. (2) In shops that are ready evangelistic campaigns should be held and decisions secured. (3) Extension Bible classes should be held in the homes of shop men. (4) More social, physical and educational features should be introduced.
2. There is great need for the associations to give more careful consideration to helping young men at a critical time in their life.
3. The week of prayer should be observed more generally. It should encourage the habit of prayer among young men.
4. There should be a general participation in the promotion of classes for the training of male teachers of boys' Bible classes.
5. Renewed consecration is needed in the winning of men and boys to Christ and the church through personal evangelism.
6. Volunteer service should be made increasingly a part of our association life. An effort should be made to interest the whole membership in such work. Everybody doing something and something for everybody to do!
7. A concerted effort is needed to enroll a larger number of men in Bible classes. For several years the increase in the enrollment of boys has exceeded considerably that of the men.
8. An effective Sunday afternoon program that will appeal to the common interests of young men is needed in many associations. An attractive social life, music, a live meeting, discussion groups and a supper will usually succeed.

A Challenge

A deeper concern for the salvation of men is growing in our State. In some places the conversion of men is a normal experience. That this may be true of all of the associations is a challenge to our faith.

* These figures do not include the student associations.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

The State Committee takes pleasure in recognizing the co-operation of the International Committee through its secretaries in helping fill secretarial vacancies, in conferences and in the promotion and development of departmental activities.

SILVER BAY

One of the most important association enterprises is that of Silver Bay. This organization is composed of representatives from the International Committee, the State and Provincial Committees of the East and the Springfield Training School. During August an Institute is conducted, including courses for three years, for the purpose of fitting men for the paid offices of associations. One of the most valuable features is the place given to studies and lectures for men who are already in the work and these have been taken by some of our most experienced men.

During the past two years there have been 800 students at the Institute, of whom 228 have been from New York State. The local and state secretaries of New York have taken a large place in the teaching and committee work. From this it will be seen that our State has not only received much help from this agency, but has made a contribution to its success.

STATE COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Convention is called upon to elect for three years, successors to the following members whose terms of office expire at this time: A. Page Smith, Albany; Charles L. Morse, Brooklyn; James H. Post, Brooklyn; E. M. Melrier, Buffalo; Clifford Hubbell, Buffalo; A. H. Whitford, Buffalo; Lewis W. Francis, New York; W. M. Kingsley, New York; Charles F. MacLean, New York; Edmund P. Platt, Poughkeepsie; J. F. Dinkey, Rochester; H. S. Ludlow, Troy.

FINANCIAL

Current Expenses

On the cover page will be found reports of the treasurer of the State Committee. The expenses have been fully met. The Committee is grateful for the generous help of friends and associations, whose gifts have made its work possible.

Endowment

Through the generosity of a friend who desires his name withheld the State Committee has recently received \$10,000 for the endowment fund. The friend writes: "It is with great pleasure that I am able to do this, knowing the value of the State Committee's influence and work in the interest of young men and boys." In this substantial way the donor is helping to perpetuate the work which he has supported many years. We earnestly hope that many of our friends will follow this example. The total amount of the endowment is \$43,250. In order to extend the usefulness of the Committee it is desired that the fund be increased to \$500,000.

Next Year's Budget

For the year ending February 1, 1911, the budget of the State Committee calls for \$35,750.

There should be a deliverance by this convention covering the responsibility of the associations with reference to the winning of men and boys to the Christian life and their enlistment in service. But this will not be sufficient. The best and abiding results are not the outgrowth of such formality, but are dependent upon the conviction and purpose of devoted men. Steadily and purposefully all through the year they must give themselves to the accomplishment of this end. We have an organization with an unusual outreach. It has demonstrated its capacity and adaptability. It has always laid emphasis upon spiritual force and religious motive—and it is believed that it will always do so. But we cannot ignore the fact that we need a larger vision and a deeper conviction concerning our duty to the great body of men who are within the circle of our influence. Many of these need the gospel message presented to them; many others need to be led to give expression to their religious life in service. The purpose of this convention is to give re-expression to this fundamental idea, and to inspire delegates to renewed effort for the evangelization of the men and boys of the State.

The State Committee is thankful for the support that has been bestowed so generously, and acknowledges with gratitude the blessing of our heavenly Father in all of its affairs.

JOHN W. COOK,
State Secretary.

WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY,
Chairman.

SEVEN YEARS OF PROGRESS

For the Period of 1902—1909 in New York State

	NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS	INCREASE
171	_____	
192	_____	12%
	NUMBER OF MEMBERS	
43,639	_____	
58,543	_____	34%
	NUMBER OF BUILDINGS	
64	_____	
88	_____	37%
	VALUE OF BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY OWNED	
\$5,593,865	_____	
\$9,932,333	_____	77%
	BUILDINGS FREE OF DEBT	
34	_____	
57	_____	68%
	CURRENT EXPENSES	
\$643,817	_____	
\$1,205,155	_____	96%
	NUMBER OF EMPLOYED OFFICERS	
280	_____	
395	_____	41%
	EDUCATIONAL CLASS ENROLLMENT	
1,312	_____	
3,027	_____	86%
	GYMNASIUM CLASS ENROLLMENT	
22,011	_____	
31,544	_____	43%
	SITUATIONS SECURED	
5,425	_____	
9,130	_____	13%
	NUMBER OF BIBLE CLASSES	
310	_____	
574	_____	85%
	DIFFERENT MEN AND BOYS ENROLLED IN BIBLE CLASSES	
5,497	_____	
8,960	_____	63%

* The upper lines represent 1902, the lower 1909.

	BIBLE CLASS ATTENDANCE	INCREASE
82,410	_____	
119,082	_____	63%
	NUMBER SHOP MEETINGS HELD	
192	_____	
1,562	_____	713%
	SHOP MEETING ATTENDANCE	
17,586	_____	
144,777	_____	723%
	ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY MEETINGS	
324,286	_____	
225,737	_____	30% loss
	BOYS' DEPARTMENTS	
	NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS	INCREASE
68	_____	
93	_____	37%
	NUMBER OF MEMBERS	
5,442	_____	
10,426	_____	91%
	BIBLE CLASS ENROLLMENT	
1,269	_____	
4,631	_____	265%
	EDUCATIONAL CLASS ENROLLMENT	
366	_____	
981	_____	168%
	GYMNASIUM CLASS ENROLLMENT	
4,293	_____	
10,239	_____	138%
	ASSOCIATIONS EMPLOYING BOYS' SECRETARIES	
12	_____	
33	_____	175%
	STUDENT DEPARTMENT	
	NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS	INCREASE
37	_____	
38	_____	2%
	NUMBER OF MEMBERS	
2,583	_____	
3,144	_____	21%
	BIBLE CLASS ENROLLMENT	
611	_____	
1,764	_____	188%

RAILROAD DEPARTMENT

NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS

INCREASE

32

31

6%

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

1,925

1,767

10% loss

LUNCH ROOMS TIMES USED

P 0,248

1,009,113

118%

REST ROOMS TIMES USED

115,610

29,096

151%

ATTENDANCE AT BIBLE CLASSES

3,074

6,205

81%

COUNTY DEPARTMENT

COUNTIES ORGANIZED

INCREASE

1

0

500%

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

7

47

57%

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

152

1,590

946%

BIBLE CLASS ENROLLMENT

95

625

557%

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS IN UNORGANIZED TOWNS

260

165

78%

INTRODUCTIONS OF YOUNG MEN

308

760

147%

Reports of the Treasurer

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

For the Year ending February 1, 1909

RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
Subscriptions—	Salaries.....\$16,840.00
Associations and Auxilia-	Traveling.....2,473.09
ries.....\$3,438.25	Office—
Boys' Departments.....465.25	Stenographers.....\$4,164.29
Individuals.....28,338.40	Postage, etc.....1,301.53
.....\$32,241.90	Printing, stationery and
State Military Camp.....407.47	supplies.....628.79
EMPIRE STATE.....133.63	Rent.....500.00
Endowment Interest—	6,991.61
W. W. Smith Fund.....\$450.00	EMPIRE STATE.....418.79
Cornelius W. H. Elding Fund.....461.49	State Military Camp.....487.10
G. A. Hall Fund.....263.34	Convention and Conferences.....349.30
General Fund.....219.34	Interest and discount.....312.66
.....1,524.17	Equipment.....141.00
Reimbursed for Traveling.....299.38	Extra Secretarial help.....131.50
Miscellaneous.....349.52	Miscellaneous.....79.33
.....\$34,956.27\$38,244.98
	Deficit reported Feb. 1, 1908.....6,067.79
	Cash balance to 1909 account.....\$34,912.77
43.50
\$34,956.27

The books were closed February 1, 1909, with all bills paid.
Having examined the receipts and expenditures of the Treasurer of the State Executive Committee
for the year ending February 1, 1909, as shown in the above statement, we find the above correct.

(Signed) S. S. BLISS.

A. L. SCHWAB.

Auditors.

March 5, 1909.

For the year ending February 1, 1910

RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
Feb. 1, 1909, Cash balance.....\$ 43.50	Salaries (ten secretaries).....\$18,733.33
Subscriptions—	Traveling.....2,963.11
Associations and Auxiliaries.....\$2,915.75	Office—
Boys' Departments.....344.04	Stenographers.....\$4,176.44
Individuals.....25,263.78	Postage, Telegrams, etc.....1,491.31
.....\$28,463.57	Printing, Stationery and Sup-
EMPIRE STATE publication.....101.32	plies.....906.65
Camp Dudley for office service.....20.00	Rent.....900.00
Boys' Conferences.....67.59	7,474.40
Endowment Interest.....1,774.72	EMPIRE STATE.....479.81
Miscellaneous.....12.18	Boys' Conferences.....267.57
.....\$30,662.88	State Convention (preliminary work).....271.53
	State Convention (summer loan).....74.22
	Interest and discount (summer loan).....14.02
	Insurance.....175.50
	Office furnishings.....24.71
	Extra field secretarial help.....94.21
	Miscellaneous.....\$30,572.41
80.47
	Cash balance to 1910 account.....\$30,662.88
\$30,662.88

SAMUEL WOOLVERTON, Treasurer.

The books were closed February 1, 1910, with all bills paid.
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for the year ending February 1, 1910, as shown in the foregoing statement, we find the same correct.

(Signed) A. L. SCHWAB.

S. MCL. YATES.

Auditors.

February 11, 1910.

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

RAILROAD DEPARTMENT

NUMBER OF ASSOCIATIONS

6

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

1 188

LUNCH ROOMS - TIMES USED

118

REST ROOMS - TIMES USED

151

ATTENDANCE AT BIBLE CLASSES

81

COUNTY DEPARTMENT

COUNTIES ORGANIZED

500

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

57

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

946

BIBLE CLASS ENROLLMENT

557

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS IN UNORGANIZED TOWNS

78

INTRODUCTIONS OF YOUNG MEN

147

Reports of the Treasurer

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

For the Year ending February 1, 1909

RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
Subscriptions—	Salaries.....\$16,860.00
Associations and Auxilia-	Traveling.....2473.09
ries.....83,438.25	Office—
Boys' Departments.....463.25	Stenographers.....\$4,161.29
Individuals.....28,338.40	Postage, etc.....1,201.33
	Printing, stationery and
State Military Camp.....\$32,241.90	supplies.....628.79
Endowment Interest.....407.47	Rent.....900.00
EMPIRE STATE.....133.63	
W. W. Smith Fund.....\$450.00	EMPIRE STATE.....6,991.61
Cornelius W. H. Elting Fund.....461.49	State Military Camp.....487.10
G. A. Hall Fund.....393.34	Convention and Conferences.....349.50
General Fund.....219.54	Interest and discount.....312.66
	Equipment.....141.00
Reimbursed for Traveling.....1,524.17	Extra Secretarial help.....131.50
Miscellaneous.....299.58	Miscellaneous.....792.53
	\$28,244.98
	Deficit reported Feb. 1, 1908.....6,667.79
	\$34,912.77
	Cash balance to 1909 account.....43.50
	\$34,956.27

The books were closed February 1, 1909, with all bills paid.
Having examined the receipts and expenditures of the Treasurer of the State Executive Committee for the year ending February 1, 1909, as shown in the above statement, we find the above correct.
(Signed) S. S. BLISS.
A. L. SCHWARZ, Auditors.

March 5, 1909.

For the year ending February 1, 1910

RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
Feb. 1, 1909, Cash balance.....\$ 43.50	Salaries (ten secretaries).....\$18,733.33
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Boys' Departments.....\$44.04	Stenographers.....\$4,176.44
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Miscellaneous.....1,774.72	Boys' Conferences.....267.57
	State Convention (preliminary work).....271.33
	Interest and discount (summer loan).....74.22
	Insurance.....14.02
	Office furnishings.....175.80
	Extra held secretarial help.....24.71
	Miscellaneous.....94.21
	\$30,572.41
	Cash balance to 1910 account.....50.47
	\$30,622.88

The books were closed February 1, 1910, with all bills paid.
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(Signed) A. L. SCHWARZ.
S. MCL. YATES, Auditors.

February 11, 1910.

7

3464

ENDOWMENT

Frederick B. Schenck, President of the Liberty National Bank, New York, in speaking of endowment for the State Executive Committee said :

"The State Executive Committee is a corporate body under the laws of the State of New York. It is indispensable to the preservation, unification and welfare of the association movement in the state. * * * Without this central organization of supervision and oversight the association work would never have attained its present magnificent proportions. * * * Being one of the most important agencies for the conservation of the work, the state committee should be liberally endowed, so that its usefulness can never be impaired, and so that its beneficent work may be enlarged. * * * Those who believe in Young Men's Christian Associations are urged to put legacies in their wills in favor of the State Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the State of New York, and any who would give money now to a thoroughly worthy and important cause, can find no more excellent enterprise than this proposed endowment fund for the New York State Executive Committee."

Certain gifts and bequests during recent years have aggregated \$43,259. A fund of \$500,000 is needed.

FORM OF LEGACY.

I give and bequeath to "The State Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the State of New York," the sum of to be held and invested by its Board of Trustees and the income thereof to be applied to the use of the said State Executive Committee.

END OF
TITLE